

5/053/048



United States Department of the Interior

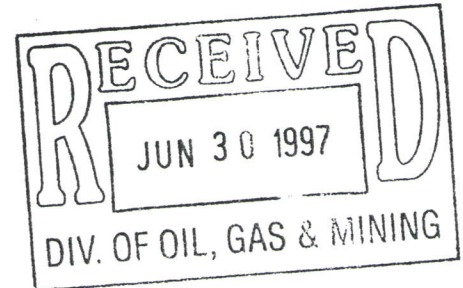
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

CEDAR CITY DISTRICT

DIXIE RESOURCE AREA

345 E. Riverside Drive, Suite 102

St. George, Utah 84770



IN REPLY REFER TO: 3809

UTU-66860, 71139

(UT-045)

June 27, 1997

Wayne Hedberg
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Ste. 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Dear Mr. Hedberg:

On June 25, 1997, I conducted inspections of the picture stone operations on Sandstone Mountain (T. 41 S., R. 13 W., sec. 10 and 15). Four operations are involved:

* Dave Penney - UTU-66860 - S/053/035 - No additional surface disturbance or reclamation has occurred. This notice was closed as of November 11, 1995 when Northern Stone filed their Notice and accepted complete reclamation responsibility for the site (see below).

Ken Brown/Western Hills - UTU-66868 - S/053/034 - One small site (less than 100 sq. feet) has been disturbed. No problems were noted. This notice is still open.

Eugene Hodges - UTU-71139 - S/053/036 - No surface disturbance since notice was filed. Claim has been abandoned. This Notice was closed on June 26, 1997.

* Northern Stone - UTU-74041 - S/053/048 - No surface disturbance has occurred since the Notice was filed in October of 1995. However, this notice was left open because of the reclamation they accepted.

If you have any other Notices for these sections, please let me know so we can co-ordinate.

I received a call from Doug Jensen at the Goldstrike mine asking how to request a partial bond release. He indicated he would write you a letter requesting release of the bond on the earthwork completed and possibly some of the established re-vegetation. We need to schedule a joint inspection at your convenience. It has been a dry spring so the new vegetation didn't do much this year.

There is an additional site which I would like you to look at if time permits next time you are down. It is a the Erickson Notice (UTU-71738). We forwarded you a copy of the Notice in October 1993, and you responded the operation did not meet the Notice level because it was pick and shovel work. The Ericksons have apparently ceased operating and abandoned the claim; however, the adit to the mine was left open. I would like your opinion on the best way to close the opening. It is a natural fracture in the rock less than 3 foot wide and over 10 feet tall which has been dug back into the bedrock.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at this office at the new phone number 688-3205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Gore".

Larry Gore
Geologist